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THE ANGLER.

There is no pursuit that unites a greater variety of exercise than angling: the robust and adventurous are required in some branches of this art, to endure the utmost fatigue, as in salmon fishing in particular; and to expose themselves to all sorts of inclemencies and inconveniences, in the attainment of their object. The fretful and irritable have been recommended to addict themselves to some of its gentler exercise, to learn the indispensable lessons of patience and self-denial; while the valetudinarian, the infirm, and the aged, may indulge themselves in float-fishing, and other branches of the art, which require little or no exertion. In a word, it is cheap, simple, and inexhaustible as a sport calculated to relieve many a weary hour, in the ingenious preparations which it requires at home and the extensive acquaintance with the works of nature that it presents abroad.

TACKLE FOR ANGLING.

In the choice of his rod, the angler will generally be directed by local circumstances. The cane rods are lightest; and where fishing tackle are sold, they most commonly have the preference: but in retired country places the rod is often of the angler's own manufacture, and he should, at any rate, be capable of supplying himself with one upon an emergency. No wood, as a whole, is better adapted for this purpose than the common hazel: and if to this he can add a sound ash stock, or butt end, and a whalebone top, he is as well furnished with materials as he need desire to be. To prepare against accidents, let the young angler furnish himself, in the decline of the year, with six or nine wands of hazel, tapering towards the size of each other, in sets of three or four, and dry them in a chimney during the winter. On long excursions in the fishing season, a set of these wands will be a prudent addition to his baggage; and by sloping off their ends, to the length of two inches, and fastening them together with shoe-makers' thread, he will quickly form a useful rod. If he can varnish the whole over with India rubber, dissolved in linseed oil, with a small quantity of seed or shell lac, it will be an excellent preservative against the weather. A whalebone top is always an agreeable addition to a rod, but not an essential one. Salmon rods are sometimes wholly made of ash, with a whalebone top. Other rods may be formed thus—a yellow deal joint of seven feet; a straight hazel of six feet; a piece of fine grained yew, tapered to a whalebone top, and measuring together about two feet. Always carry a jointed rod, when not in use, tightly looped up.

The *line*, like the rod, should gradually diminish toward the further extremity; and no materials excel strong clear horse hair. If you make it yourself, the hairs from the middle of the tail are best, and those of a young, and healthy, gray or white stallion; sort them well that the hair of every link may be of equal size with each other; and if you wash them do not dry them too rapidly. For ground-fishing, brown or dark hairs are best, as resembling the colour of the bottom. Silk lines are more showy than useful. They soon rot and catch weeds.

Your *hook* should readily bend without breaking, and yet retain a sharp point, which may be occasionally renewed by a whetstone. It should be long in the shank and deep in the bed; the point straight, and true to the level of the shank; and the barb long. From the difficulty of tempering and making them, few anglers ever undertake the task. Be careful to provide yourself with a variety accordingly. Their sizes and sorts must, of course, entirely depend on the kind of fish for which you mean to angle.

Floats are formed of cork, porcupine quills, goose and swan quills, &c. For heavy fish, or strong streams, use a cork float; in slow water, and for lighter fish, quill floats. To make the former, take a sound common cork, and bore it with a small red hot iron through the centre, length ways; then taper it down across the grain, about two-thirds of the length, and round the top, forming it as a whole, into the shape of a pear. Load your floats so as just to sink them short of the top.

INGENUITY OF A FOX.

The southern shore of Island Magee is steep and crag-

gy, and the cavities of the rocks inhabited by foxes; concerning one of these the following anecdote is related:—A fox was observed to have his den in the cavity of a rock, in a situation which seemed to bid defiance to the approach of either man or dog: many conjectures past how the animal descended or ascended thither: when one morning being closely pursued, he was observed to enter in the following manner: some briars growing on the verge of the precipice, and hanging towards his den, he laid hold of them in his mouth, and slung himself down to a part of the rock which projected, from which he could easily reach his den. The first time after this that he was observed abroad, a man went and cut the briars nearly through, by which he descended, then hunting him with a dog, he proceeded to his usual place of refuge, and caught hold of the briars with his wonted confidence—they gave way, and he was killed with the fall down the precipice.

THE POWER OF VISION.

A shepherd upon one of the mountains in Cumberland was suddenly enveloped with a thick fog or mist, through which every object appeared so greatly increased in magnitude, that he no longer knew where he was. In that state of confusion he wandered in search of some known object by which he might direct his future steps. Chance at last brought the lost shepherd within sight of what he supposed to be a very large mansion, which he did not remember to have seen before; but on entering this visionary castle to enquire his way home, he found it inhabited by his own family. It was nothing more than his own cottage. But his organs of sight had so far mislaid his mental faculties, that some little time elapsed before he could be convinced that he saw real objects. Instances of the same kind of illusion, though not to the same degree, are not unfrequent in those mountainous regions.—From these effects of vision it is evident that the pupil and the picture of an object within the eye, dilate at the same time.

TO MAKE BREAD FROM POTATOES.

The following is the process for making bread from potatoes and wheat flour. Sixteen pounds of potatoes well washed, when pared weigh 12lbs—after boiling them well they weigh thirteen pounds, and are then mixed, while warm, with twenty-six pounds of flour; the potatoes being bruised as fine as possible, and half a pound of yeast added. Four quarts of warm water are added to the mixture of potatoes, yeast, and flour, and the whole well kneaded together, and left two hours to rise, and then weigh forty-six pounds and four ounces. The whole made into loaves or cakes, and baked in an iron oven for two hours. The day after being baked, it will weigh upwards of forty pounds of excellent bread.

TO MAKE GOOD FAMILY BREAD.

Take twelve pounds of fine flour, five pints of water moderately warm, but not hot; half a pint of liquid yeast, and four ounces of salt. With a whisk mix the yeast well with about a quart of the water; dissolve the salt in the water that remains; and gradually pour both fluids over the flour, kneading it till well mixed.—Let the dough stand four or five hours, till it reach the highest point of rising, when it may be formed into loaves and immediately placed in the oven, the heat of which should be tested by a bit of parsley, &c. The oven must be closely shut, and not opened till the bread is fully risen, which will be from two to three hours. If the oven be opened sooner, the bread will fall and be heavy.

The manner of duelling in Japan is singular, and to our European prejudices may appear absurd and barbarous; the philosophical observer may, perhaps, consider it as rational as an appeal to the sword or pistol. When two men of honour quarrel in that country, the party who conceives himself injured rips up his own entrails with a large knife, and presenting the instrument to his adversary, invites him to follow his example. No Japanese gentleman can decline the invitation, for if he does not instantly plunge the knife into his own bowels, he is dishonoured for life.